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Sen. Brown announces \$140,000 in grants awarded to 16th District

LANSING – Two communities in the 16th Senate District will benefit from Early Childhood Investment Corporation grants totaling \$140,000, announced state Sen. Cameron S. Brown, R-Fawn River Township.

“This is wonderful news for children and their families in St. Joseph and Branch counties,” Brown said. “Our children remain our greatest natural resource and we must do everything in our power to help them learn and become contributing members of their communities.”

St. Joseph County will receive \$90,000 in Great Start Collaborative grants to perform a community assessment and establish a plan to provide early childhood services and support to young children and their families.

Branch County will receive \$50,000 in Capacity Building grants to address any issues or barriers to becoming a fully functioning community collaborative.

A non-profit public corporation, the goal of the Early Childhood Investment Corporation is to promote early learning and childhood development activities.

A total of \$1.24 million in grants was awarded to 14 communities across the state. The funds will be administered by intermediate school districts.

Grants were awarded based on collaboration readiness criteria as well as the number of children in poverty in each community.

“I am glad to see these funds used for such a worthy purpose,” Brown said. “I can’t think of a better area to invest our money than in our children.”

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